



Natural Resources Conservation Service
375 Jackson Street, Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101-1854

*Helping People
Help the Land*

Phone: (651) 602-7900
FAX: (651) 602-7914

Transmitted via Email

February 21, 2006

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 180-6-4

SUBJECT: CPA – RELEASE OF NEW RUSLE2 VERSION 1.25.8.0 FOR OPTIONAL USE

Purpose. To transmit information about bug fixes in this version

Expiration Date. September 30, 2006

RUSLE2 Version 1.25.8.0 is now posted on the RUSLE2 website at:
http://fargo.nserl.purdue.edu/rusle2_dataweb/. The CCE certification for this version was completed Friday January 13, 2006, and shown as certified on the CCE software site http://servicecenter.kcc.usda.gov/sfw_m_r.htm.

What is New?

Primarily, this version fixes the yield display bug in the profile screen and the "load from file" bug in the worksheet and plan screens. In addition to the yield fix and the load from file fix, this current release includes a minor change in the Rotation Builder screen to prevent scrambling the operations dates when advancing the dates by the interval choices. Additionally, the user access levels have been revised to correct some minor display glitches in the irrigation box in the management screen and we have some revised print templates that are adapted to the revised irrigation tracking in the management screen.

Database Updates.

RUSLE2 Version 1.25.8.0 was created on December 19, 2005. The base database as of December 19th is included in the installer. However, since that date there have been several additions and edits to the residues, operations and vegetations parts of the base database. Requests are received almost daily so the database is constantly being added to and updated. During times of heavy RUSLE2 use such as preparation for CSP signups, the NRCS master database may be updated several times a week in order to provide the necessary operations and crops requested.

Newer changes and additions since 12/19/05 are not contained in the base database included in the installer but, rather, must be imported from the **database update file** also posted on the RUSLE2 website. Regardless of whether you use the base database (moses.gdb) included in the new installer and import your local soils, climate, managements, profiles, worksheets and plans into it from your current operating database to create a new local database, you simply map the new version to the existing local RUSLE2 database file and update that one, or you choose not to install the new version, **every office needs to import the latest database updates.** The person responsible for maintaining the database in every office is responsible for checking the website every month or so

for database updates. Instructions for how to import the database updates is on the Minnesota NRCS web site with all of the RUSLE2 documents.

Loading RUSLE2 version 1.25.8.0 is Optional

Many of you have been asking for these bug fixes. However, because of the difficulty of getting new versions loaded on field office computers in a timely fashion, and since it has been less than the normal 6 month interval, use of this new version will be optional, depending on your tolerance of the couple of bugs in the October version. You have the option of loading the new version if you feel the bugs in the October version are causing field offices trouble or are resulting in errors in running the model. It will fix those bugs and your field offices will benefit from it.

In deciding whether or not to load this version you should consider that we have tried to limit updates to no more than two releases per year with March and October as the targeted months for release. This current release will constitute the mid year release normally posted in late March. Last year you got a break since the national database manager chose to not release the March 2005 version due to the ongoing CSP signup so only one update was released in FY 2005.

Looking forward, the 2006 fall release will include a significant improvement in how RUSLE2 handles daily grazing removal of forages.

Questions on this bulletin should be directed to Robin Martinek, State Agronomist at (651)602-7866.

/s/

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

DIST: ASTC (FO)
ARC